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## 5<sup>th</sup> Grade

The advice I would give a family about a new pet so that its offspring will not end up in the local animal shelter would be to get their pet spayed or neutered, give their pet a collar, and take good care of their pet. The reason why animals get put in the shelter is because they do not have a home or their owners cannot take care of them.

Getting your pet spayed or neutered keeps them from having any children and will help avoid over population of homeless animals. If you get your pet spayed or neutered there wouldn't be any offspring to send to the shelter. Pet owners should get their pet spayed or neutered when they are still young and before they reach maturity. They can do this by going to a local vet or a free animal clinic.

Giving your pet a collar is another good way to keep them from ending up in an animal shelter. When your pet has a collar people know that they belong to someone and will look at the tag to help return them to their owner. You can also register your pet with the animal shelter so if they do get taken there they can call you and have you pick them up.

Taking good care of your pet will also help them not end up in an animal shelter. You can do this by making sure your fence does not have openings where your pet can get out. Make sure your pet is fed daily so they don't try to find food elsewhere and get lost. Teach your pet not to bite people so no one will send your pet to the animal shelter.

It is very important to make sure your pet does not end up in an animal shelter. If animals are left in an animal shelter too long they will get killed. Pet owners should follow this advice so their pet can have a happy and healthy life.